

Message Text

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53

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAЕ-00 OMB-01

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R 061155Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9842

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EC, EFTA, NO

SUBJECT: STATUS OF PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES IN EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN

(R/O)

REF: STATE 120525

1. NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT THE EFTA PROPOSALS ON THE SIMPLIFICATION AND IMPROVEMENT OF R/O IN TRADE WITH THE E/C COUNTRIES. KJELL FREDERIKSEN OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND SIGURD SIGURDSON OF THE COMMERCE DIRECTORATE DISCUSSED THE STATUS OF THE VARIOUS PROPOSALS WITH ECONOFF.

2. THE EFTA NATIONS SUBMITTED COMMON PROPOSALS AT MAY 23RD

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MEETING IN BRUSSELS. THE E/C COUNTRIES TOOK A POSITIVE

VIEW TOWARDS THE PROPOSED FULL CUMMULATIVE PRINCIPLE WITH-IN EFTA. HOWEVER, THE COMMUNITY WAS MORE RESERVED CONCERNING THE ALTERNATE 50 PERCENT PERCENTILE RULE. ACCORDING TO SIGURDSON EFTA ALSO PUT FORWARD A SIMPLIFICATION OF THE DECLARATION OF ORIGIN RULE WHICH WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS TO USE THEIR OWN STAMPS. FRANCE AND ITALY WERE SEEN TO BE THE MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCKS TO THE EFTA PROPOSED CHANGES, ESPECIALLY THE 50 PERCENT RULE. IN ANY CASE THE E/C COUNTRIES HAVE TAKEN THE EFTA PROPOSALS "UNDER CONSIDERATION".

3. ALTHOUGH THE NEXT CUSTOMS COMMITTEE MEETING WAS NOT UNTIL NOVEMBER, NORWAY WILL TRY TO CALL AN AD HOC MEETING TO DISCUSS R/O QUESTIONS BEFORE THEM, SIGURDSON EXPECTED THE EC TO PUT FORWARD SOME OF THEIR OWN PROPOSALS BY NOVEMBER. NORWEGIAN OFFICIALS DID NOT SEE ANY FIRM CONCLUSION BEFORE NEXT YEAR.

BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS, RULES COMMITTEE, MEETINGS, TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OSLO02298
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750198-0605
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750674/aaaacpg.e.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 120525
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES IN EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN (R/O)
TAGS: ETRD, EC, NO, GATT, EFTA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006